

Minutes
Woodstock Agriculture Commission
Monday, May 12, 2014 - 1:00 PM - Woodstock Town Hall, Lower Level Conference Room

Present: Members: R. Seybolt, R. Norman, S. Morse, D. Young, L. Weaver, Alternates: P. Miller,

- I. Call to order:** Meeting was called to order by R. Seybolt at 1:00 p.m.
- II. Assignment of Alternates:** N/A
- III. Minutes of the March meeting:** R. Norman moved to accept the minutes. S. Morse seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- IV. Old Business:**
 - a. WINY Farmer Talks – S. Morse reported - May 19th – Linda Auger and June 27 – Happy Herdsman
 - b. CT 2014 Legislative Issues – Horse bill passed
 - c. Quiet Corner Initiative Ag Program – S. Morse still following up
 - d. Woodstock Grown Brochures – get them passed out
 - e. AGvocate April Conference – L. Weaver attended on Sat 4/. Speakers included Rep Courtney, Ag Com Steve Reviczky, and FSA state director Bryan Hurlbut. Rep Courtney gave positive comments to Woodstock Ag Commission for holding the November public meeting where he spoke and learned about the Food Safety bill. He said this meeting helped him move forward and get an extension on the comment period so that more farmers could have input to the new regulations. New ag survey – 22% increase in CT farm #s, 4% decrease in USA #s. 2% of all CT food \$ spent on CT raised food, campaign to get this to 10%.
- V. New Business**
 - a. Medical Marijuana & P&Z – Delia Fey came to update us from discussion at P&Z. Ag Commission will be kept informed of any issues that may be pertinent
 - b. Large Animal Rescue 6/21 – D Young to encourage attendance by Woodstock
 - c. Soil Health 6/7 in Vernon – made committee aware
 - d. Domesticated Horse Bill – This bill passed and Governor will sign and now places the liability back on the owner to manage their horses.
- VI. Other**
 - a. 10% campaign – endorse/encourage 10% pledge for food service providers and consumers to spend 10% of food dollars on CT grown produce. Letters to be written to Woodstock Academy, Hyde School and the Board of Education to encourage use of locally grown food in their school food menus. S. Morse to draft letter and send for commission to review.
 - b. November Public Meeting – discuss possibility of getting a speaker from the College of Ag to attend our annual evening meeting. R Seybolt to follow up.

The meeting was adjourned by R. Seybolt at 2:10pm. The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 9, 2014 at 1pm in the lower level of the conference room of the Town Hall.